

ARTS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

The emergence of regional arts coordination agencies, serving New York State areas that range in size from neighborhoods to counties, has been noted in previous Annual Reports, and there have been several instances of Council support of such groups in the past. These agencies are performing an increasingly important role within the New York State arts complex—planning programs, preparing calendars, serving as information centers, publicizing arts events, issuing plans and studies, co-ordinating meetings, and raising funds. In 1970-71 the Council provided financial assistance for such services offered by fourteen organizations. In most cases the funds were used for administrative staff salaries. Three recipients, however, were awarded funds for specific projects—Monroe County Metropolitan Arts Resources Committee, to continue a study on cooperative funding and programming of arts activities in the Rochester area; Upper Catskill Community Council of the Arts, to publish an arts newsletter; and the New York Board of Trade, to coordinate business funding of arts activities in greater New York City.

The organizations receiving Council assistance include Albany League of Arts (\$8,000); The Bronx Council on the Arts (\$17,500); Brooklyn Arts and Culture Association (\$17,500); Council for the Arts in Westchester, White Plains (\$13,500); Greater Middletown Arts Council (\$17,500); Harlem Cultural Council, New York City (\$17,500); Huntington Arts Council (\$12,000); Monroe County Metropolitan Arts Resources Committee, Rochester (\$12,500); New York Board of Trade, New York City (\$15,000); Queens Council on the Arts (\$17,500); Rensselaer County Council for the Arts, Troy (\$8,000); SoHo Artists Ltd. (SoHo Association), New York City (\$4,000); Staten Island Council on the Arts (\$17,500); and Upper Catskill Community Council of the Arts, Catskill (\$2,900).

Two organizations engaged in specialized work affecting many arts groups and institutions received Council assistance in 1970-71:

Planning Corporation for the Arts, New York City.

\$45,000 for research on the role of the arts in New York State and the implications of public funding of the arts.

Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, New York City.

\$10,500 for administration of a pioneer program of free legal assistance and management counseling to arts organizations.

A major Council grant for 1970-71 in the area of public service directly affected the creative artist:

Cultural Council Foundation, New York City.

\$325,000 to provide financial assistance through the Creative Artists Public Service Program to both new and established individual artists working in fields including choreography, music composition, poetry, prose, drama, film, video, painting, sculpture, photography, graphics, and multimedia. Awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 were made to a total of 123 artists who would make their activities more widely available through public services such as readings, lectures, workshops, residencies, performances, exhibitions, and donations of work to public institutions. Half of the services involved were for the benefit of upstate communities. Among the activities and projects generated by the grants are the donation of six pieces of sculpture for use in such public

places as a highway rest area, a public plaza in Binghamton, and a mental health facility; the production of eight new music compositions, a jazz opera, and a musical theatre production; and the creation of films on the New York State abortion law, the Hudson River, and the black life style.

Arthur J. Kerr

[See the Creative Artists Public Service Program listing of recipients]